

# REVOLUTION

ISSUE 51

socialist youth movement • 20p

phone 07951 493 232

# DEFEND THE PALESTINIANS



# END THE OCCUPATION



## Queen Mum... Queen Bum...

Whilst Palestinians were dying by the score in the refugee camps of the West Bank, the UK media has been filled with news of the death of the "our Queen Mum".

Sycophantic headlines screamed "A nation unites in grief."

Commentators spoke of her "common touch" and how she epitomised the spirit of the Blitz. Her racist views were glossed over as "mild anti-Semitism" or "reservations about Jews in her old-fashioned English way."

### What was the truth?

Elizabeth Bowes-Lyons was a racist apartheid-supporting, anti-Semitic, pro-appeasement right-winger who lived a long life of luxury at the expense of the ordinary tax-paying workers. She didn't like the French or the Germans and supported Chamberlain's policy of appeasement towards Hitler and Mussolini in the 1930s.

She complained about the bad press given to the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia and referred to

"My mum could have lived until she was 100 and bloody one. Instead she died poor, in an old folks home. Queen Mum sod you!"...

from the revolution

Good Riddance  
Book dedicated to  
the Queen Mum.

black people as "blackamoors" and "nig-nogs".

She loved the life of privilege and luxury paid for by the sweat and toil of workers: horses, extravagant clothes, rich food and fine wines, jewels, objets d'arts and a staff of fifty servants.

What the media has barely mentioned is that she was booed and jeered when she visited the bombed, rubble strewn streets of the East End during the Blitz. The ordinary working class residents were angered by being patronised by a jewel-laden aristocrat who lived safely in the concrete bunkers.

Another symbol of a reactionary establishment has passed away. Sad for her family and the right wing press but workers have nothing to mourn.

The monarchy is not a unifying institution. It is an affront to democracy and has no place in the future that we wish to build.

As far as the monarchy are concerned, the Bolsheviks got it spot on... shoot the lot of them.

## THEY SAY BOREDOM, WE SAY BOARD ON!

by Becky the Mancunian

Following Manchester City Council's recent ban on skateboarding, the Manx Revo group decided to support the rights of the skaters and fight the council bully boys.

After several successful demonstrations over recent months, we turned up at The Triangle confident that the moshers would not let us down. We would not be disappointed. Neither would we be disappointed with the vigilance of the police later on in the demo.

Having picked up a large crowd of between 40 and 50, we marched straight into Marks & Spencers' much to the cheers of our supporters. Marks & Spencers! Innocent or guilty? Guilty was the final verdict. Guilty of exploiting children barely into their teens in sweat shops in third world countries, and paying them shit money while they're at it too. As we proudly waved our red flags in the air and chanted "we don't want your sweatshops", the bemused shoppers looked on in amazement.

It was while we were in M&S that the first police attack of the day came, when the megaphone was seized and a revo member was threatened with arrest even though they were doing nothing illegal.

Leaving M&S, we led the protest into St. Ann's Square and then into GAP (stands for greed, abuse and profit). Yes, that's right folks, another third world exploiter. By this time we were being trailed by five rude but unscary cops, one of whom kept making sarcastic remarks like, "come on kids, your mum will be picking you up soon." We were thrown out of GAP quite quickly by a rude copper shouting, "you've been warned once, get out now or I'll nick you all!" I honestly don't know what his problem was; we only wanted to look at the nice sweatshop-made clothes!

As we left GAP, more revo members

were threatened with arrest again because 'the demo wasn't just about skateboarding but was a political statement.' AND? Blatant intimidation by the police on behalf of the sweatshops.

### SK8BOARDING

The skateboard part of the protest went very well, with lots of angry skaters making their voices heard. After the demo the most militant of the supporters came with us to the meeting. We had about 10 or 15 people in total. There was a lively debate about what to do next and we all decided to march down to the local radio station, Key 103, and try and arrange for someone to publicise our cause on air sometime. We met a nice lady and told her all about our petition and protest. She works for the station, so hopefully with a bit of luck, (and a bit of pressure), we might get mentioned on one of their shows.

One of the questions most commonly asked was why. Why have the council banned the democratic right to skate? One answer is the upcoming Commonwealth Games, to be held in Manchester. The council is trying to "clean up the city" and make it "safe." Safe for who?

Safe for the big businesses and multinationals who extort money out of peoples' pockets. If we're not careful, the centre of Manchester will turn into a place where only people with money can go. People who want to shop.

What about the people that just wanna hang out and have a good time? What about them? What about the youth? Now that all of their youth centres have been closed down, and all their favourite past-times banned, they have nothing to do, nowhere to go. This is why we must unite and protest, for the right of the youth to go where they like.

# WHY THE CAPITALIST MACHINE IS DESTROYING OUR WORLD

By Tom  
in Wrexham

Capitalism is destroying our world like cancer destroys life; it affects everything like food, technology and business.

The reason for this is quite simple: greed and power. The capitalist bourgeoisie soaks up all the profit and power it can muster and leaves the average man with little or nothing to live off. For instance is it right that tonnes of food is destroyed just to keep the prices high?

Is it right that greedy corporate fat cats control most of the world's wealth and turn a blind eye to the hunger and poverty suffered by millions? No it is not right.

Although many people embrace capitalism seeing it as a way to 'make the world a better place' they are just uneducated as to what really goes on.

For example 1 in 3 children in Britain will

grow up in poverty and 1 in 5 households have no breadwinner, to sum this up is simple the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer.

Capitalism is a economic system whereby a wealth owning class of humans hires the majority of humanity to perform work in order for the wealth owning class to make as much profit as possible. It has no moral basis or foundation. It is just there so profit can be made and that profit is only for the minority not the majority. It is fuelled solely by greed and power.

The human values of kindness like co-operation and respect have no place in a capitalist society.

Capitalism thus has no concern for human beings, human culture, the environment or natural resources.

There is no concern for meeting the needs of human beings. The benefits of capitalism come at an immense cost, although capitalism does produce an amazing amount of goods, which some of us enjoy, the price is very heavy....a constant lowering of our standard of living and the destruction of our most cherished human values such as democracy, majority rule, liberty, freedom, equality and shared abundance.

If things continue in the manner in which they are now we could face a long hard future, more people need to wake up and open their eyes to what is going on around them. They must see that capitalism is not the way forward. It is dragging us back slowly. A socialist society would benefit us all and that is what we must all strive to achieve.

# HENRY KISSINGER — MASS MURDERER

by Simon in Manor House



When we think of war criminals the usual names come into our heads - Hitler, Stalin, Pol-Pot, and others. But what about the former Secretary of State for the US, Henry Kissinger?

You may never have heard of Henry Kissinger. He was the Secretary of State of the United States from 1973 to 1977. He was in his prime under Richard Nixon's corrupt government in the 1960's and 70's. During this time his actions lead to the murder of millions of people all over the world.

He masterminded and organised wars, assassinations and military coups that left millions dead in Bangladesh, East Timor, Angola, Vietnam and Chile. The war in Vietnam would have ended five years earlier if it had not been for Kissinger.

And to rub salt in wounds of millions, he was awarded a Nobel Peace prize in 1973!

Yes. Capitalism is a mad system run by profit crazed hypocrites who want us to believe that an evil fucking butcher like Kissinger spent his time promoting global peace! Oh and by the way, pigs can fly too!!

Kissinger was the US administration's 'Knight in White Armour' in their war against communism in the 60's through to the mid 80's. Anywhere that there was a progressive movement, he ruthlessly used every weapon at his disposal to crush it. He supported the Indonesian invasion of East Timor (500,000 dead/missing), the supplying of weapons to right-wing scum like General Yahya Khan in Bangladesh (600,000 dead/missing). He helped plan the military coup in Chile (10% of the population arrested, tortured or killed) and he prolonged the war in Vietnam

(1,000,000 dead North/South Vietnamese) and the bombing of Laos and Cambodia (upwards of 350,000 and 600,000 dead, respectively).

Kissinger is still a powerful voice amongst the ruling class and he still commands a lot of respect and influence amongst right wing politicians including President Bush Jr.

That is why the Institute of Directors has invited him to speak in London on April the 24th. The meeting Kissinger is speaking at is sponsored by some of the biggest names in British capitalism.

The chairmen of Shell, Unilever UK and the stock exchange are all in attendance along with the UN Commissioner for human rights! The meeting is about the effects of globalisation and the ethos of "corporate Social Responsibility". A good example of the kind of "corporate social responsibility" Kissinger supports would be when Shell didn't complain about the murder of 8 Ogoni civil rights activists by the Nigerian military to make way for Shell's oil drilling on Ogoni land. Nice one eh?!

A big protest is being planned outside the Royal Albert Hall where Kissinger is speaking - to give the war criminal a very special welcome to Britain.

Revolution members are taking part in the protest. We must protest with our loudest voice against his presence and call for him to be tried as a war criminal. We can't let the slaughterers of the past be rewarded with praise, money or respect.

Kissinger is a respected symbol of capitalism and as such he represents everything that we must fight against if we are to secure a fair and peaceful world for future generations. Come and make your voices heard. Don't let the world's biggest living war criminal meet some of the world's biggest living capitalist crooks.

**Don't just take our word for it. Check out the book, *The Trial of Henry Kissinger*, by Christopher Hitchens. Verso Books  
ISBN: 1859846319**

Or go to <http://www.trialofhenrykissinger.org>

**GET KISSINGER  
APRIL 24th 7.30am  
MEET at Royal Albert hall**

## SOME OF THE CHARGES AGAINST KISSINGER

### VIETNAM

Kissinger scuttled peace talks in 1968, paving the way for Richard Nixon's victory in the presidential race. Half the battle deaths in Vietnam took place between 1968 and 1972, not to mention the millions of civilians throughout Indochina who were killed.

### CAMBODIA

Kissinger persuaded Nixon to widen the war with massive bombing of Cambodia and Laos. No one had suggested the US go to war with either of these countries. By conservative estimates, the U.S. killed 600,000 civilians in Cambodia and another 350,000 in Laos.

### BANGLADESH

Using weapons supplied by the U.S., General Yahya Khan overthrew the democratically elected government and murdered at least half a million civilians in 1971. In the White House, the National Security Council wanted to condemn these actions. Kissinger refused. Amid the killing, Kissinger thanked Khan for his "delicacy and tact."

### CHILE

Kissinger helped to plan the 1973 U.S.-backed overthrow of the democratically elected Salvador Allende and the assassination of General René Schneider. Right-wing general Augusto Pinochet then took over. Moderates fled for their lives. Hit men, financed by the CIA, tracked down Allende supporters and killed them. These attacks included the car bombing of Allende's foreign minister, Orlando Letelier, and an aide, Ronni Moffitt, at Sheridan Circle in downtown Washington.

### EAST TIMOR

In 1975 President Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger met with Indonesia's corrupt strongman Suharto. Kissinger told reporters the U.S. wouldn't recognize the tiny country of East Timor, which had recently won independence from the Portuguese. Within hours Suharto launched an invasion, killing, by some estimates, 200,000 civilians.

## Blade 2 (non)Review

by James in Manor Park

Last week I went to see the new Blade 2 film for my seventeenth birthday with my friends not knowing that it was rated an eighteen and over film. So the obvious happened: we couldn't get in and so we had to do something else, which really pissed me off! I mean who on earth decided that this film shouldn't be seen by anyone under eighteen!?!

Because who ever decided that this film shouldn't be seen by under eighteen year-olds is incredibly bloody stupid. If I went back to the same cinema the day before I was eighteen, I wouldn't be allowed in! Now can somebody please explain what

one day's difference is supposed to make to someone? Its stupid to say that an eighteen year old is better able to handle "indecent" material or "graphic" portrayals of violence. I know many eighteen year olds who are egotistical self-centred little shits and I know many eighteen year olds who are kind, caring and incredibly helpful. The same goes for everyone else I know. Some of them are arseholes and the others are wonderful - age has absolutely nothing to do with what you're like or how intelligent you are.

What's even more amazingly stupid is that if I manage to be patient and wait awhile, I'll be able to buy



or rent Blade 2 on DVD (don't bother getting VHS it sucks). It won't particularly matter that I'm under-eighteen renting the DVD - that is how I got to see Blade 1! Which is also an eighteen. So as far as I can see the whole thing about age being important is a load of bullshit that we need to get rid of! Its useless and more importantly its stopping us from doing what we want to do!



# Sharon is clearing the way for ethnic cleansing

As predicted in the last REVOLUTION, the conflict in the Middle East has reached a decisive turning point, and events over the next few weeks may be crucial in determining the outcome of the struggle for the next few years.

On 29 March, he sent tanks and troops into the West Bank town of Ramallah, encircling the headquarters of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, destroying buildings and raiding the Ein Beit Elma refugee camp nearby. That was just the start. Every major Palestinian town has been occupied and there are reports of massacres in the Jenin refugee camp.

And all this has happened when an Arab summit was being held in the Lebanese capital, Beirut, to discuss new "peace" proposals put forward by the Saudi government.

These proposals offered peace and full normalisation of diplomatic relations between Israel and all of the Arab states combined. In return they demanded Israel's full withdrawal from the territories it captured in the 1967 war, and the establishment of a Palestinian state in the whole of this territory with East Jerusalem as its capital.

But, while many within the ruling classes of the Arab states, the Palestinian Authority's administration and the governments of the European Union countries have welcomed the Saudi proposals, the Palestinian masses have rightly rejected the Saudi "peace plan".

Why? For this reason: if the plan was meant merely to bring about a cease-fire and a return to political negotiations, then it is a trap. The latest intifada (uprising) broke out in September 2000 because the Palestinians had enough of being entangled in fruitless negotiations, while Israel continued building illegal Jewish settlements on land stolen from them to



create "facts on the ground", and squeeze the Palestinians into ever-contracting ghettos.

And, if on the other hand, it was seriously intended to be the basis of a political settlement overseen by the "international community," then it is also a trap. It would result in a disarmed Palestinian mini-state, incapable either of absorbing the Palestinian refugees, of building a viable economy independent of Israel or of addressing the injustices at the heart of the Palestinian conflict.

For a just solution it will take a single, democratic state for both Palestinian Arabs and Israeli Jews – and the overthrow of both the Israeli and Arab ruling classes of the region and Western imperialist domination – to do that.

Sharon prevented Arafat's attendance at the Beirut summit, arguing that he had not done

enough to prevent terrorism against Israeli civilians. This was a move clearly intended to humiliate the Palestinian people as a whole, by demonstrating Israel's ability to prevent their leaders from taking part in pan-Arab diplomatic efforts to bring about a cease-fire. The message is that there will be a cease-fire on Israel's terms or not at all – in other words, that the obstacle to a cease-fire comes from the Israeli government's own policies.

Nor has Arafat's confinement in Ramallah produced the results allegedly intended by Israel in reducing the physical threat to its civilians' safety – contrary to the promises Sharon made to his own people, suicide bombings have continued despite the presence of Israeli tanks on Palestinian streets.

Sharon demands that the Palestinian Authority act to protect Israel's security – while rendering it powerless to do so. Holed up in his compound, and with his police force under constant siege and attack by the Israeli security forces, Arafat cannot physically repress the militant organisations like Hamas.

Equally, without at least the promise of political concessions or a halt in Israeli incursions into Palestinian population centres, Arafat cannot possibly persuade them to observe a cease-fire, either. But then, Sharon's incursions are not intended to protect the lives of ordinary Israelis and never were.

Their real purpose has been to re-occupy the Palestinian ghettos evacuated by Israel during the Oslo "peace process" (which were handed over to Israel's would-be collaborators in the form of Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority), and to dismantle the Authority and all the other institutions of Palestinian self-rule.

Another likely purpose of the Israeli incur-

# United we stand

By Laura in North London

With every passing day the humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people in the West Bank deepens. As the cycle of violence and retaliation continues, it is hard to see an end to the ever-increasing bloodshed on both sides.

Yet whilst Arafat and Sharon continue to blame each other for the lack of progress, the streets tell a different story.

Disaffected secular Israelis fed up of having their lives put at risk by the increasingly brutal and hard-line acts of Sharon have shown their anger increasingly vocally, with anti-Sharon protests becoming an almost daily occurrence.

The Israeli peace-movement is stronger than it's ever been right now and its message is disarmingly simple: peace and security. What this means are not checkpoints and IDF tanks, but a genuine willingness to cooperate with the construction of a Palestinian state so long as this will put an end to the endless cycle of bombing and retaliation.

Whilst moderates within Israel are silenced in parliament by the uncompromising stand of a few hard-line religious zealots, mass-protests cannot be ignored. These protests, which are repressed using riot-police

and water cannon, speak of more than weariness with Sharon's belligerency, but speak of a genuine solidarity with the Palestinian cause.

This solidarity is, however, tempered with a certain realism, which recognises the need for compromise in what is an incredibly delicate situation.

Whilst our long-term objective of a unified, secular state, where both Palestinians and Jews live in total equality must never be lost sight of, it is important to recognise that we are still a very long way from a time when this will become a real possibility.

While both sides remain preoccupied with demonising each other, no progress towards this objective can be made. What is so exciting about the Israeli peace movement is that it is the first step towards a recognition that it is not the Israeli and Palestinian people who are to blame for the continued violence, but the leadership.

Whilst Palestinian refugees see IDF tanks outside their windows, Arafat can blame Israel, an external foe, for the desperate poverty of his people, thus distracting them from the fact that him and the rest of the Palestinian authority drive around in Mercedes, with access to the finest luxuries, whilst the people starve in squalor.

By highlighting the number of innocent civilian lives lost to the suicide-bombers, Sharon distracts Israeli attention away from the fact that their lives and their hopes for peace, are placed in the hands of a few hard-line, religious settlers who refuse to leave the occupied territories.

The influence of this tiny minority over the policies of the Israeli government is grossly out of proportion, with many Israelis feeling their government is completely out of touch with their aspirations.

If we truly believe in the possibility of a single, unified state where Israelis and Palestinians can live together in peaceful co-existence, we must encourage both Israelis and Palestinians to unite against their corrupt and out of touch leaderships.

It is only through meeting with each other on the streets that they are going to realise that their aspirations – that they should be able to live in peace and prosperity – are the same. If this ideal is to be realised we, as internationalists against the narrow-mindedness of Nation states should be at the forefront of forging these links if the ideal of a unified state is ever to become a reality.

sions is to strengthen Israel's hand in the event that negotiations resume – by using the promise of military withdrawal and the release of prisoners as a bargaining chip. In the meantime, more deaths – on both sides – will follow.

Sharon and his Zionist backers are responsible for the crisis – not the suicide bombers or the Palestinians as the western media want us to believe. Sharon is directly responsible for the latest intifada. Ever since the terrorist attacks on World Trade Centre in New York on September 11, he has been trying to send in the tanks to crush the Palestinian people. He was only prevented from doing so because the US needed to get Arab support for the war in Afghanistan.

But don't be fooled by reaction from the west to Sharon's invasions of Palestinian towns. Even though Bush and Blair have demanded that Israel withdraw from the areas that it has entered since the end of March they still support him 100%.

George W Bush and Tony Blair have spent the last few weeks trying to put together a coalition of Arab states to attack Iraq in the name of the "war on terrorism". Their objection is not to the Israeli army being used to murder defenceless Palestinian civilians, but that this should be happening at a time when Britain and the United States need the support of Arab governments to murder defenceless Iraqi civilians instead.

Everyone knows that if the United States really wanted Israel to pull back, then it could force it to – by withdrawing the \$3 billion in military and economic aid, loan guarantees it gives Israel every year.

Having failed to coax the Israelis into withdrawing from the West Bank, Bush and Colin Powell have switched the onus for ending the violence onto Arafat.

The hypocrisy and racism of this view is appalling. Since the incursions began, 28 Israeli soldiers and 27 Israeli civilians have been killed, compared with between 200 and 500 Palestinians. The reason for the uncertainty in the number of Palestinian dead is that Israel has sealed off several towns amid accusations of massacres of civilians and attempts to hide them by burying bodies in mass graves.

Of the Palestinian dead, Israel claims that only 15 were key fugitives on its wanted list. Similarly, of the 4,185 Palestinians arrested since the incursions 60 were said to be fugitives and 30 wanted for killings. There is not even an attempt to conceal the fact that this "operation" is directed against the entire Palestinian population of the Occupied Territories – and not just those directly involved in armed violence.

The Israeli government has attempted to stave off American pressure by insisting that it wants a cease-fire and negotiations towards a political settlement, and that the current incursions are aimed merely at "destroying the terrorist infrastructure".

However, if Israel continues also to disarm the Palestinian Authority's police and the militants alike, to destroy the infrastructure of Palestinian autonomy, and to humiliate the Palestinian leadership to the point of reducing

# PANIC OVER

**AS THE IDF ASSURES  
US THAT IF THEY  
DO KILL SOMEONE  
BY MISTAKE, THEY  
ALWAYS APOLOGISE!**



by Hannah

the to an irrelevance ignored by the masses, then Israel will have no-one to negotiate with. The Occupied Territories will become ungovernable, and Israel will have no option except to re-garrison the area with its own forces.

This would mean a return to the status quo before the first Intifada in 1987. However, few Israelis believe that this would improve their security at all – and the deaths of 13 Israeli soldiers during an ambush in Jenin show just what is in store if such a "military solution" is attempted.

Short of a political settlement, Israel's only option for a "peaceful" re-occupation would be mass expulsions and massacres – making this a very real danger in the near future.

Sharon's coalition government includes parties formally committed to "transfer" – ethnic cleansing – and he has recently strengthened his coalition by including two new ultra-right parties in the Cabinet, ending his dependence on the labour party for a parliamentary majority.

Already, opinion polls show that 75% of Israelis support the current incursions, while 46% support the idea of "transferring" the Palestinians out of the West Bank and Gaza to Jordan as a "solution" to the problem.

Mass ethnic cleansing is exactly Sharon's preferred option is and that is what he is trying to lay the ground work for.

To prevent such a reactionary outcome from taking place, the workers movement and anti-capitalist movement world-wide must mobilise now in support of the Palestinian people and build a movement that can isolate Israel politically and economically, while giving real practical assistance to the Palestinians.

## What revolution stands for

REVOLUTION supports the Palestinian struggle against Israeli occupation and apartheid. We stand for a single state for both Palestinian Arabs and Israeli Jews in the whole of Palestine, to which the Palestinian refugees will be allowed to return, and which will make no distinction between its citizens on grounds of race, nationality or religion.

Our own movement includes both Arabs and Jews, united in a common struggle against the capitalist system and its market madness, millionaires, moral hypocrisy and militarism.

REVOLUTION is willing to work alongside anyone who wants an end to the Israeli occupation. The generals, politicians and capitalists of the Israeli ruling class will not simply give up their power. They will have to be overthrown by revolution. We support the Palestinians' right to conduct armed resistance against the occupation - but point out that the strategy of indiscriminately targeting Israeli civilians has only strengthened Sharon's hand.

We support the activities of the Israeli peace movement, and the Israeli "refuseniks" who have rejected service in the occupation army - but point out that their commitment to a Jewish state cannot solve the oppression of the Palestinian people.

Most importantly, REVOLUTION, as part of the global anti-capitalist movement and the workers' movement, takes part in actions of solidarity with the Palestinian uprising, and calls upon anti-capitalists, socialists, communists and trade unionists world-wide to join this growing movement of solidarity.





"they're treating me like an enemy of the state." – Janet Alder

# COPS IN COURTROOM SHOCKER!!

## Latest on the Christopher Alder case

The police in court? Oh yeah of course, they're always there hanging around the building, looking down their nose at people caught up in "crimes" of poverty, strutting around, looking ready for trouble..

NO. Actually in court: 5 white policemen from Hull are in the dock due to the death of a black man in their custody - Christopher Alder, a father of two who died in Hull Police Station 3 years ago. Originally up on charges of misconduct in a public office, now the more serious charge of manslaughter through gross negligence has been added by the judge in the case. Seeing as not a single copper has ever been convicted of a death in custody, much less dismissed, this is a truly groundbreaking case.

Christopher Alder was brought in for Breach of the Peace after some trouble at a night-club in Hull. Nothing too unusual in that on a Friday nite. "By the time Christopher Alder arrived at that police station, he was deeply unconscious," said one witness. "He never regained consciousness. He was dragged into the police station, his feet trailing behind him. His trousers and underpants were down his legs." The police left him lying on the floor face down with his hands cuffed behind his back. He began to die. It took him 11 minutes, gasping for breath. The police just went around their business chatting, one even joked that Alder was play acting.

There is one major difference between this case and those of many other black people who have died in custody: there was a video camera in the room which recorded the whole thing. The police, no matter what lies and explanations they have put forward in other cases, can't get away from the hard evidence. As a result of this there was an inquest lasting seven weeks – the longest in British history – and the jury returned a unanimous verdict of unlawful killing in August 2000. Under pressure, the Crown Prosecution Service decided to prosecute the 5 West Yorkshire Policemen with "misconduct in public office." Not the heaviest of charges, and they were suspended on full pay! Many feel that the case was moved to a court in Middlesborough so the judge won't feel the local heat and the police are more likely to get an all-white jury. The Home Secretary has refused to overturn this decision and move it back to Hull.

The family has had to pour loads of time and money, helped by campaigners, to see that justice is done. Now the judge has admitted the charge of manslaughter through gross negligence to the case, so that is a victory.

### EYEWITNESS: FIRST DAY IN COURT

Some anti-capitalists from Leeds went over to Middlesborough for the first day of the trial.

Some activists from A-Spire ([www.a-soire.org.uk](http://www.a-soire.org.uk)), a squat collective that puts on parties, cafes, and community events, had shown Injustice at their last one a few weeks back. This film, about deaths in custody, had been targetted for systematic intimidation by the Police Federation – wherever it was being shown they either tried to sue the venue or physically disrupt it. So in London it was pulled by the Ritz, Prince Charles and many others. But more and more people began to defy the pigs, and as a result a groundswell of Injustice screenings has made the police back down. Just goes to



show you that the police have something to hide, that they'll do what they can to bend the law to protect themselves.

Janet Alder, Christopher's sister, came to speak at the A-spire film day, and invited people to come over and support the campaign on its first day in court. A-spire got it off the ground, organising a coach and a benefit gig in the local West Indian Centre. We went over bright and early on April 10th, and when we got outside the court all these camera men were there snapping photos, so it was good that we were there for backup and to help get it into the news.

It was doubly good because the cops had brought their own backup, to intimidate the family. About 10 police in riot vests were there, and they had their own camera man who followed us in! The court staff actually directed us through the security gate where they could film us face-on, while the rest stood around staring and then followed us upstairs, standing in groups nearby on guard - like we were the criminals! or like we'd be stupid enough to tear the place up or something, when they're the ones in the dock! It

was just pure intimidation. Unfortunately for them (heh heh) the camera bit was totally illegal – one activist went and got the court manager, and they had to wipe the tape, and the smile off their faces.

At lunch we had a small rally that Janet spoke at, and everyone was angry about it – as she said herself it was like she was "an enemy of the state" – which she is. Anyone who speaks out against the police discredits their image and restricts their powers, undermining the front-line force of the state, the thin blue line that occupies the working class and black communities, pushes back the picket-lines, attacks demonstrations.

The Justice For Christopher Alder Campaign is also calling for an end to the police investigating themselves. That's a good start: we need to strip away their special privileges, strip away their powers, disarm them of their automatic weapons, CS gas, pepper spray, American-style killer truncheons. The police should be disbanded - let communities democratically police themselves.

It was good some of the media was there but we can't rely on them. Look at how papers like the Gaurdian defended Brian Paddick,, because he is a police chief after their own hearts - liberal, openly gay, pro-legalisation (and white). Yet three black men died in 6 months at the hands of his men, and he didn't even suspend any of the officers involved! We can't expect a lot from the media.

The way to do it is to publicise this case as far and wide as possible, in the communities and in the trade union movement. We've got to use this case to get justice for Christopher Alder, and to build a mass anti-racist movement in Britain, aimed at the police and the fascists, that can make sure no more die at the hands of racists. No justice? No peace!

Andy, [LeedsRevolution@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:LeedsRevolution@yahoo.co.uk)

Check out the Injustice film <http://www.injusticefilm.co.uk/>: email them to get a hold of a copy, show it in your community centre, school, college or union branch: invite Janet Alder to speak or send in your donations: Justice for Christopher Alder Campaign, c/o Red Triangle Café, St James street, Burnley, Lancashire. Tel. 01282 832 319

There will be other mobilisations for key court dates coming up: if you're in the North of England, get in touch. Campaigns are running in Hull, Leeds, Middlesborough and Burnley.

30th April - 2nd May 2002

Screening on: Tues 30 April Thurs 2 May  
Filmhouse Cinema Edinburgh SCOTLAND Box office:  
0131 228 2688

12th May 2002

Tricycle Cinema, 269 Kilburn High Road, LONDON, NW6  
1.00pm screening followed by Q&A with families and film maker.

Showing as part of the bfm Film Club.

Tickets: 020 7328 1000



# WEAPONS of MASS DESTRUCTION?

as 'precision' cruise missiles. by bob in hack-

These weapons were widely used in the first gulf war and caused the deaths of a large numbers of civilians including the destruction of a crowded air raid shelter. This is what Blair and Bush call 'collateral damage.'

Also they manage not to apply the label of WOMD to other 'indiscriminate' weapons they like to use regularly such as landmines and cluster bombs or even the daisy cutter bomb recently used in Afghanistan which has the destructive force of a small nuclear bomb.

Another definition of WOMD is that their effects linger in the environment - this of course applies to landmines and cluster bombs but also to deleted uranium weapons which remain dangerously radio active after exploding.

In 1991 the atomic energy authority published a report stating that there was enough deleted uranium radioactive material and toxic rubble left behind in Kuwait and southern Iraq to cause 500,000 deaths through increased cancer rates. This has since become crystal clear in the ten years since the report was published with a huge increase in leukemia, carcinoma, cancers of the lung, fused fingers and toes on infants, long term

miscarriages and a long list of other such ailments in the areas in which this weapons were used.

In terms of nuclear weapons it is worth thinking about who has actually used nuclear weapons - the US is the only country to have actually dropped nuclear bombs, during world war two - one at Nagasaki and one on Hiroshima - despite the fact the US intelligence knew that the Japanese were ready to surrender.

**The term ground zero was first used to describe the devastation at Hiroshima a site of destruction far out weighing the damage done on Sept 11th.**

Much is also said of biological weapons but again we find that it is the US and its imperialist allies that lead the way - the US sprayed several thousand tonnes of herbicides over three million acres of South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia to wipe out foliage and to destroy crops. These herbicides included 500 pounds of dioxin - a pollutant that is at least as toxic as nerve gas and highly carcinogenic. Three ounces in the water supply would be enough to wipe out the population of New York!

Ultimately the point is that it's not the weapons that are the issue but who has them.

In the hands of a perceived enemy of the US and other western imperialist nations any kind of weapon seems to be able to be described as a Weapon of Mass Destruction. Even though it is these countries that actually control such weaponry and have demonstrated time and time again that they are prepared to use it!

Imperialism thrives on poverty, destruction and war which is why the major imperialist nations must be defeated not just by those fighting them abroad but by revolutionary action at home.

Recently there has been a lot of talk about weapons of mass destruction (WOMD). Most of it is aimed at stirring up fear that Iraq may somehow be able to destroy the western world - and so must be destroyed first.

But what is a weapon of mass destruction?

The US government defines a weapon of mass destruction as nuclear, chemical and biological in nature and 'indiscriminate'.

Surely then this means that the US, the UK and Europe must have more weapons of mass destruction than any one? It seems not to have occurred to them and if it has (which of course it has!) then they keep quiet about it.

They always contrast weapons of mass destruction with their own 'smart' weapons such

## VENEZUELA - MASS DEMONSTRATIONS LEAD TO PRESIDENT'S DOWNFALL. VENEZUELA - MASS DEMONSTRATIONS LEAD TO PRESIDENT'S REINSTATEMENT!

After a four day general strike, in which hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans took to the streets, the army stepped in a removed Venezuela's President Chavez. But the continuation of the protests have made them re-instate him!

During the protests, which were organised by the trade unions and supported by business leaders, security forces and supporters of the ousted president fired live ammunition and tear gas at mass demonstrations and killed 13 people.

Fearing an escalation of the strikes and the protest movement, the army stepped in. In order not to be accused of organising a coup, the army generals have appointed Pedro Carmona, the head of the countries largest business association, as interim President.

Venezuela is the world's fourth-biggest oil exporter and relies on petroleum for four-fifths of its exports and one-third of its gross domestic product. Yet up to 85% of Venezuelans live in poverty in shanty towns, the most infamous of which sprawl over the hillsides around the capital, Caracas.

Chavez, after trying to organise a failed coup in 1992, was elected as President in 1998 on a promise of ending corruption and improving the plight of the countries poor. He did neither and things have gotten worse since then.

That is why workers went on strike. Following the example of Argentina they've realised that the only way to get things done is to take direct action.

Having also pissed off the Venezuelan capitalists and their backers in the US, the capitalist class are were afraid of the workers going to far so they figured it was better to get rid of Chavez.

The so called "democratic" President Carmona (appointed by the military) tried to repeal economic laws the capitalist didn't want, abolish the Supreme court and the Parliament.

Ordinary Venezuelans could see that Carmona was just a capitalist dictator supported by George Bush and the CIA. So they stayed on the streets and Carmona was forced to resign after one day and Chavez, the original president, has come back!

But it doesn't matter which capital-

ists politician leads the country. They will have no solutions to the poverty of the millions in Venezuela. They can only make things worse. Like Argentina, Venezuela is another unstable country in Latin America where the masses of poor and unemployed have had enough of IMF/ World Bank neo-liberalism and capitalist exploitation, misery and poverty.

**WHAT?**

**Revolution is the only solution and is looking like a real possibility all over Latin America. Stay tuned....**

by sean in camden

FREE  
MARIO



## May 8th, 2002 International Day of ACTION!

Mario Bango is a 18-year old Roma from Slovakia, imprisoned since March for the "crime" of defending his younger brother when they were brutally attacked by a Neo-Nazi skinhead. The nazi died from his

wounds later in hospital.

Mario's family - as many other Roma in Slovakia - has suffered repeated racist abuse and physical attacks by neo-Nazi skinheads.

**We demand: stop the prosecution**

**of Mario Bango for any offense: release him immediately from prison.**

**Get involved in the campaign! Ring 07951 493 232!**

**REVOLUTION 7**



## WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT MAY 1st?

May 1st is International Workers Day, a day that the workers TOOK from the bosses. A day that was fought for and defended by the workers since 1886. In those days, the big fight with the bosses was over the 8 hour working day. Although we may have won this right in Britain (on paper anyways), for the

WALK OUT! We will be hooking up at Kings X London at noon – listen out for the sound system.

**come out on mayday for the  
sound system street party  
EXTRAVAGANZA!**

There are lots of  
goings on the whole day...

majority of  
the world this is still  
the number one issue. Think of  
the workers that slave away in the  
sweatshops of Nike and Gap all over the world  
that are forced to work 16 hour days.

This is just one of the issues that workers are  
fighting for when they protest on May Day.  
They are fighting for better working conditions,  
security in their jobs and better pay. They are  
fighting for a better life. Not just for  
themselves, but for workers across the globe.

May 1st is also a celebration of workers  
solidarity around the world as workers from Sri  
Lanka to Portugal, from South Africa to  
Argentina take to the streets on demonstrations  
in an organised force. It shows that workers  
across industries and from different countries  
have more in common than they do with  
capitalists of their own country that put profit  
before people.

## WHAT'S UP ON THE DAY?

This May Day is ours for the taking.



REVOLUTION has put the call out for an all out  
student strike. Everyone from the schools,  
colleges and universities, agitate, organise and

For the first time since 1829, the state has  
allowed a march on Trafalgar Square while  
parliament is sitting and there are a number of  
trade unions backing the call for a May Day  
walkout in the workplace. The CWU, the posties  
union whose members are facing jobs cuts of  
over 40,000 in the next year, are well up for it.  
The organisers are talking about 10,000 or  
more on the streets. REVO will be here with  
the masses, bringing the enthusiasm and  
dynamism of the young, anti-capitalist  
movement into the trade union movement.

The Mayday Collective are planning 'May-fayre  
in Mayfair', a combination of many small  
actions and festivities. This is a retreat, on  
behalf of the anarchists, from the idea of a  
centralised united demonstration due to the  
lock-down in Oxford Circus last year.

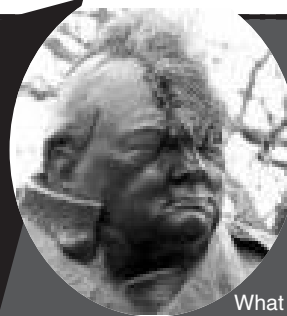
We think its important to have a mass  
demonstration and it is better to try and bring  
anti-capitalism to the workers movement. That  
is why we are going to be on the "united for  
may day" march.

If it does kick off and the cops attack the  
demonstrators in Mayfair, REVO will defend the  
demonstrators and try to pull others from the  
trade union demo to help. That is the true  
'united for May Day' spirit.

At 5pm in Soho there is a big street party called  
the Sex Workers Carnival organised by the Sex  
Workers Pride and the GMB union with the  
fabulous Rhythms of Resistance samba band.

## COPS

The police repression will be heavy on the day.  
The cops have stated that they will police the  
legal demonstration and it will be 'disciplined  
and orderly.' The state has granted this march,



What  
is a few

windows being  
destroyed if not  
frustrated energy?  
Freedom from  
tyranny(which tends  
to rear it's beastly  
head in the form of  
corporatism... and a  
royal family so on its  
last legs it defaces  
the whole idea of  
moribund). This year  
will show people's  
frustration and a step  
towards real  
change. But hang on  
a chimchucking chip  
of a minute-it's going  
to be extra this year,  
for there shall be  
music!, Winin and  
grindin to Shaggy  
whilst debating the  
spread of  
Thatcherism. There's  
something  
wholesome about it.  
But at the end of the  
day, there's only one  
real main reality that  
we can strive from  
mayday, and that's  
truth. The  
culmination of people  
bring with them  
they're own fight. Will  
you be bringing  
yours?

## Mayday; What will become of Mayday?

Ah,  
that time. That time,  
when in a display of  
unity, May 1st will (as  
it never fails to do)  
bring about a  
grappled collective.  
Bringing the political  
activists, peace  
freaks, the true  
believers to the fore.  
This worldwide march  
for our rights as  
workers will,  
undoubtedly ejaculate  
around the flagrant  
smell of freedom. An  
exciting concept.  
When I contemplated  
the chemical make up  
of the fuel behind the  
furore...it did seem to  
come down to the  
individual's basic  
freedom.  
Last year, the media  
footage of Maccydees  
being smashed up a  
bit hit home the  
message of poor  
working conditions.

not because 'rioting works' as someone said,  
but because the government is afraid of the  
change that has been happening across Europe.  
They have seen the massive anti-capitalist  
demonstrations in Genoa, Barcelona and  
Brussels, and they remember back to last year  
when 6,000 people defied the ban on demos and  
exercised their democratic right to protest.  
The anti-capitalist movement is getting bigger  
and stronger – and they are very afraid!

## JOIN REVOLUTION!

- ☐ I want to join Revo!
- ☐ I want to subscribe for 6 issues (£2)
- ☐ No thanks I'm going to be a stockbroker

Name: .....

Address: .....

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## WOOP WOOP IT'S THE SOUND OF THE POLICE!

aren't trying to find "legal" ways of harassing and persecuting May Day activists:

★ The Radical Dairy: over 40 riot piggies in full gear assaulted the door of the dairy with a battering ram as the occupants tried to open the door for them. They proceeded to search the building and the bodies (ouch!) in an attempt to shut down "this crack-den of anarchists". Although they didn't find any drugs, they did abscond with the computer hard drives. Cheeky shits!

★ The WOMBLE 7, who were picked up on Halloween (for what no one is quite sure - and this includes the cops), have had their trial pushed back to – what a coincidence! – May Day. As one WOMBLE said, 'This trial is about the criminalisation of dissent and the political repression of a group of activists.' Give them your support. Phone 07960 973 847 or email: womble7@wombles.com.

The cops have maybe taken a step  
back from the media onslaught of lies  
and hype that they perpetrated last year  
(remember the scare story of samurai  
swords?) but that doesn't mean they

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